

Knowledge organiser – Drama – Component 3 Noughts and Crosses -Section A

No.	Question	Answer
1.	How long is the exam?	One hour 30 minutes
2.	How long should you spend on sections?	Section A = 1 hours and 5 minutes Section B – 25 minutes
3.	Who wrote the It?	Sabrina Mahfouz
4.	What is the basic synopsis?	Noughts and Crosses is a modern-day adaptation of Romeo and Juliet – The story follows the two families the McGregor's and the Hadley's who are at odds with each other and made more complicated by the racial disputes and discrimination present in the story.
5.	How many sections are there? (Scenes)	Prologue - Act 1 – Callum & Sephy at the beach – prepare for school, news report watched by both families, Split scene / The Hadley household/ the McGregor household, cross cut Sephy / Callum monologues 3 years later, Andrew & Kamal talking, Heathcroft protest / reactions to protest both families / Callum & Sephy at the beach, Lunchtime at school / attack / sibling fight / truth about Lynette, Aftermath of fight / Callum tries to talk to Lynette / Kamal's affair, Suicide / overdose, cross cut time has passed Callum and Sephy plan to meet at the shopping centre / Callum saves Sephy / reactions to the bomb / the truth, Police arrest Ryan / trial / verdict / reprieve / death of Ryan. Act 2 – Cross cut / three years have passed / letters, kidnap / news / Callum on guard / rekindle romance, Escape, News / Sephy monologue / pregnant, Callum visits Sephy / arrested / ultimatum, Callum in prison before execution / declaration of love / death Epilogue -
6.	Can you name the main characters?	Hadley family – Sephy, Kamal, Minerva, Jasmine McGregor family – Callum, Ryan, Meggie, Jude, Lynette Nought traitor / Cross spy – Andrew Protestors Shania / Lola / Dionne – Cross school girls Judge Jackie – Cross prison guard Kelani Adams – Barrister Mr Pingule – Barrister Mr Bowden – Head teacher at Heathcroft Police men
7.	What are the characters social class?	The Hadley family are upper class and the McGregor's are lower class.
8.	What is 'character interaction'?	The ways in which characters communicate or interact with each other. The action or relationship among two or more characters.
9.	What is a metaphor?	A metaphor is where we see a symbolic level of meaning, where the characters and audience see things regarded as representative or symbolic of something else, religious figures, or philosophical viewpoints.
10.	What is a monologue?	A long speech delivered by one actor - can be directed to the audience or to another character –
11.	What are rehearsal techniques?	Rehearsal techniques are exercises which help prepare the actors in the early stages to help them shape / mould their characters and interpretation of these roles.
12.	Name some rehearsal techniques, describe what they are and the effect / impact of using this technique.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Emotion memory – recalling a moment from the actor's life where they have experienced something similar to the character and remember how you reacted. They then use this memory to enhance their performance, which helps create a more naturalistic portrayal and rendition.

Knowledge organiser – Drama – Component 3 Noughts and Crosses -Section A

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Vocal exercises / experimentation – using different emotions for re-enactments of the scene to consider suitability and what works. ○ Off the text improvisation – performers focus on events not depicted in the script and consider moments which they may explore, to help them define characters and their interpretation of role, motivation and focus. This gives actors more depth when depicting roles and helps them explore / understand relationships within the text. ○ Hot seating – Actors answers questions in role whilst sitting in the hotseat – allows them to develop a greater understanding of their role, motivations and gives them freedom to explore the character. ○ Role on the wall – creating a gingerbread man template – where you comment facts and information about the character on the outside of the diagram; on the inside you write about the characters emotions, mood and feelings.
13.	What is a character's motivation?	Character motivation is the reason behind the characters behaviours or actions within a scene or at any moment.
14.	When discussing use of voice, what does tone of voice refer too?	Tone of voice is its colour or emotional quality. When performing a scene, you must identify your characters emotion at each given moment. You must make sure that your tone of voice matches your characters mood and what you need to communicate about their feelings.
15.	What does 'tempo' mean?	Tempo of voice refers to the speed or pace in which an actor delivers their lines.
16.	When does pitch refer too?	This is how high or low an actor delivers their line, for example a high pitch might be very shrill sounding where as a low pitch would use a deep voice.
17.	Name some physical techniques / skills.	Body language, Facial expressions, Gait, Gestures, Posture, Proxemics and Use of space
18.	What is meant by the performance skill gait?	Gait – Is the manner in which an actor walks.
19.	Define the term proxemics.	Proxemics refers to the positioning on stage of actors and how this relates to their relationships / status.
20.	What are the themes of the play?	Racism, family, romance / love, violence, persecution, prejudice, tragedy
21.	What is the playwright's intention?	Mahfouz was inspired by Malorie Blackman's novel – she said "it is far too close to our reality to leave our imaginations. We still live in a systemically racist society, no matter how loudly this maybe refuted by those at the top of it." "Due to the intensity of Sephy and Callum's individual journeys, Malorie makes their world ours. This is what I wanted to draw out on stage the most. I wanted to draw out these two flawed, fantastic, brave, young people-in love, lost, full of hope and rage, dreams and desires, challenging a superracist system just by being their complicated selves."
22.	Can you discuss the historical context?	<p>Malorie Blackman wrote novel in 2001 in response to racism Dominic Cooke adapted for the stage 2007 RSC 2016 Sabrina Mahfouz adapted and toured in 2019</p> <p>Influenced by events: Racism in MB's life such as history lessons that failed to mention Black historical figures. South Africa apartheid (segregation) 1948 to early 1990s Events in America such as Little Rock 9 -1957 segregation in schools, The Ku Klux Klan targeted racial groups in 1920's.</p>

Knowledge organiser – Drama – Component 3 Noughts and Crosses -Section A

		In UK, Stephen Lawrence murder 1993
23.	What is the genre of the play?	<p>Non-naturalistic – Story theatre</p> <p>The structure is how the plot or story is laid out, including a beginning, a middle and an end. The structure of <i>Noughts & Crosses</i> is known as story theatre; characters stand back and comment on the action as well as take part. They share their thoughts and feelings, comment on events, provide transitional information from one episode to another and help to cover the expository material handled in the novel's narrative.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Story theatre tends to use very little set and few props, which are carefully selected and designed. This way, action can proceed quickly without elaborate set changes. • Story theatre is highly episodic. The action takes place in a variety of places during many scenes. Each episode gives the audience an insight into characters and events that have played a significant part in Sephy and Callum's relationship and the society they are part of. • The episodic structure allows different perspectives to be viewed by the audience, e.g. Sephy and Callum's family life and their relationships within the family. • The structure is also linear. Although the play begins with a flashback and there are flashbacks in Act 2 to suggest the passing of time, generally the play follows the story of Sephy and Callum from beginning to end.
24.	What is the structure of the play?	Episodic
25.	When was The It first staged and where?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The play was first performed by Pilot Theatre on 1st February, 2019, at Derby Theatre.
26.	Describe the original staging?	<p>It was performed end on</p> <p><i>Noughts & Crosses</i> was originally staged using an expressionistic set, which was adapted to suggest the different locations throughout the play. The set design also used elements to highlight some of the key themes and atmosphere of the play, e.g. racism/division, privilege, misinformation and chaos.</p>
27.	Can you define what a theatrical style is?	A theatrical style is the manner in which a storyline or message is conveyed.
28.	Common options of theatrical style are...?	Naturalism, Epic Theatre, Theatre of the oppressed, Physical theatre, Symbolism
29.	What theatrical styles are seen?	Non-naturalistic techniques such as narration and storytelling, epic theatre as well as moments and elements of realism.
30.	Name the 7 main staging types.	Proscenium Arch, End on, Traverse, Thrust, Promenade, Theatre in the Round, Arena Stage
31.	Describe a proscenium stage?	The most common type of stage. Audience sit and watch the performance through an archway which frames the stage but also provides off stage areas where audience cannot see to help further illusions.
32.	Describe an end on stage?	The same audience configuration as proscenium arch, however there is no arch to frame the stage.
33.	Describe a traverse stage?	This stage can also be known as a 'catwalk' stage. The audience sit on the two longer sides of a stretched rectangle.
34.	Describe a thrust stage?	The stage "thrusts" out into the audience, and their seating is wrapped around 3 out of 4 sides, sometimes creating a horse shoe shape.
35.	Describe promenade staging?	A promenade staging has no set location and the audience follow the actors around to certain areas of performance and then move on to the next location.
36.	Describe a Theatre in the Round stage?	An In the round stage is positioned at the centre of the audience, with spectators sat all around the space.

Knowledge organiser – Drama – Component 3 Noughts and Crosses -Section A

37.	What are design elements?	The areas of technical theatre are scenery, lighting, properties, costuming, and sound.
38.	In N & C what might set consist of?	Original set, designed by Simon Kenny, created a dystopian reality. A series of panels morphed from walls to apertures to cupboards. This structure was constantly folding and changing. The panels would suddenly transform into banks of video screens or live TV transmissions. The set created a recognisable world but also another, parallel world. Chairs and tables became mirrors. Barricades represented chaos as violence erupted. The predominant colours were red tones:
39.	Can you name the 6 main types of lantern used to create light in a theatre?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Profile spotlight – definite sharp-edged beam, can also be used for gobos. ✓ Fresnel Spotlight – soft edged beam, good for smaller areas ✓ Flood light – light for large areas as it literally floods the stage ✓ Strobe light – quick successive flashing light, making action appear ‘jumpy’ ✓ Birdie – a tiny lantern good for up lighting facial features and distorting them creating an eerie atmosphere ✓ Moving head – light which moves across the stage, changes colour and can project images using gobos.
40.	What is a gobo?	A gobo is a metal stencil which is placed over a light to project an image onto the stage or cyclorama (back wall of the stage)
41.	What is a gel?	To change the colour of light projected on stage a gel is placed in front of the light which creates a coloured filter.
42.	What is meant by the term intensity?	Intensity of lighting is a direct reference to how bright or dim the light is.
43.	How can sound and music enhance a performance?	Sound and music can add atmosphere, emphasise action happening on stage, and help set the scene, indicate a change of time or location or focus attention onto a character.
44.	What is diegetic sound?	Diegetic sound is sound which is heard by the characters on stage and exists within the world of the play. For example, a play set in the woods may have the sound of birds, in street scenes the audience may hear the sounds of cars passing by. The characters may not react to these but they are there creating a sense of realism.
45.	What is non-diegetic sound?	These are sounds which exist outside the world of the play and the characters don’t appear to hear these. For example, in the scene where Catherine dies you may have emotional music playing as she fades.
46.	What is costume?	Costume refers to what the actors are wearing.
47.	What theatrical style would you use & which type of staging?	In your opinion which type of staging would be effective? Theatre in the round, end on, thrust, traverse, arena, promenade?
48.	What props / costume and set would you use?	This question wants you to think about what you would like the actors to wear and what would be on stage. These technical elements can really enhance a play. In the original conditions costume was naturalistic and gave the production a contemporary feel, reflecting the age and status of the characters. The colour used in the Crosses’ costumes were <i>‘bright and jewel-like in their wealthy fabrics; the noughts faded and wrung out’</i> . The colour scheme of the set was echoed in the uniforms for Heathcroft School and the Liberation Militia.
49.	What lighting / sound would you use?	Lighting and sound are key technical elements in a performance which really enhance mood and atmosphere. This question asks you to consider your ideas for type of light, colours, intensity in order to portray a fully rounded production. What additional thoughts do you

Knowledge organiser – Drama – Component 3 Noughts and Crosses -Section A

		have for sound? In the original production the sound and music had a cinematic feel and worked in conjunction with the lighting to conjure up locations and atmosphere, e.g. a secluded seashore and the terrorist atrocity. The set was enhanced by Joshua Pharo's lighting design. He used neon, direct, mood and sectional lighting. This emphasised the structural qualities of the set and reinforced the modern setting. Strobos and haze were used to create atmosphere and location. Infrared was the dominant colour. Projections of news footage gave the play an authenticity and immediacy.
50.	What does it mean to respond to a performance?	If a question asks you to give your response to a performance it is asking you to give your opinion and justify your reasons for this backed up by explanation discussing key moments.